

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract as follows:

~~{Object}~~ The present invention is to provide a novel peptide having a potent hypotensive activity by inhibiting cardiac contractility, a DNA encoding the peptide, an antibody against the peptide, or a cardioinhibitory/hypotensive agent comprising the peptide as an active ingredient. A search of a genetic data base revealed the presence of a peptide biosynthesized by a processing of unspliced product of TOR2A mRNA. As a result of functional analysis, a peptide hormone exerting a potent bioactivity and expressed abundantly throughout human organs was found. The peptide is hydrophobic with a molecular weight of 2664.02 consisting of 24 amino acids (AIFIFISNTGGKQINQVALEAWRS; SEQ ID NO.: 2) and shows a negative inotropism in rat hearts, as well as a marked systemic hypotensive activity.

Please amend the specification in paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11, first paragraph as follows:

“An amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted or added” herein mentioned relates to an amino acid wherein, any number of amino acids, for example, 1 to 10, preferably 1 to 5 amino acids are deleted, substituted or added. Further, “a nucleotide sequence wherein one of a few nucleotides are deleted, substituted or added” mentioned in the above, relates to a nucleotide sequence wherein, any number of nucleotides, for example, 1 to 20, preferably 1 to 15, more preferably 1 to 10, further preferably 1 to 5 nucleotides are deleted, substituted or added. Moreover, as a specific example of an amino acid sequence wherein one or a few amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the amino acid sequence shown by SEQ ID No: 2, having a cardioinhibitory activity or a hypotensive

activity, an amino acid sequence wherein 4 amino acids at C-terminal end are deleted: (1-20); an amino acid sequence wherein 4 amino acids at ~~C-terminal~~ N-terminal end are deleted (5-24), a potent cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity is maintained. In a sequence wherein 11 amino acids at C-terminal end, and 1 amino acid at N-terminal end are deleted (2-13), even the activity is somewhat decreased, it has been confirmed that the cardioinhibitory activity or hypotensive activity is maintained.